

TULLAHOMA HIGH SCHOOL BAND MEMBER HANDBOOK

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Tullahoma High School Band

927 North Jackson Street

Tullahoma, TN 37388

931-454-2629

Band Membership

To be a member of the Tullahoma High Band, students and/or parents must:

- Register and enroll in the proper band class period for the full school year. Taking band only one semester is not allowed (except for non-instrumentalist color guard members or special circumstances approved by a director)
- Complete all forms and payments by the due dates or communicate arrangements with directors
- Agree to comply with the terms of this handbook
- Agree to comply with the rules and regulations of Tullahoma High School
- Agree to comply with the terms of the Tullahoma City Schools Code of Conduct
- Remain in good standing, both academically and behaviorally, with Tullahoma High School teachers and administration
- Attend all camps, rehearsals, performances, and other scheduled band functions
- Students who choose to leave or are removed from the band program will not be eligible to rejoin at a later date

Materials

Class Materials- have the following items at each rehearsal:

- 3 ring binder w/ page protectors
- Pencil
- Instrument, in good working condition
- Woodwinds- Key oil, cleaning swab, reeds and reed case (At least two spare reeds)
- Brass- valve oil, rotor oil (horns), slide grease, mutes as needed
- Percussion
 - o Large practice pad (Offworld Invader, 12" Evans ReelFeel)
 - o Concert snare sticks (IP-LD or equivalent)
 - o Marimba mallets (Balter Basics Series Birch BB3 Soft or equivalent)
 - o Timpani Mallets
 - o Pitch Pipe
 - o Percussion bag (Innovative Mallet bag or equivalent)

Marching Band Materials- have the following items at each rehearsal:

- Music (in 3-ring binder w/ page protectors)
- Instrument
- Coordinate sheets (on lanyard)/dot book
- Appropriate shorts/athletic pants
- Low top athletic shoes and socks (no crocs or sandals)
- Sunscreen as needed
- Large personal water jug- included in band fees this year

Marching Uniform Required Parts- students are expected to provide the following to complete the uniform for every performance. Uniform parts should be washed between each performance. (The "Tullahoma Band Camp Fees Checklist" can be found in the band camp packet):

- Marching shoes - purchase by using the "Tullahoma Band Camp Fees Checklist"
- Long black socks
- New Spirit Shirt
- Undergarments - Shorts provided by student or can purchase. Account will be charged
- Gloves - purchase by using the "Tullahoma Band Camp Fees Checklist"

Marching Band Uniform Care

- Uniform fittings will occur during or after band camp.
- The full uniform shall include: undergarments, long black socks, jacket, pants, band hat, all marching shoes, Apollo Head Band with wrap , plume.
- The guard uniform is set each year and will be outlined in detail at Band Camp.
- A uniform inspection will occur prior to every game or performance.
- Following performances, all members are expected to report to a uniform crew member to verify that their uniform has been hung/stored properly and then turned in BEFORE leaving campus.
- When in uniform, students are expected to:
 - Act professionally and respectfully
 - Keep uniform in pristine condition
 - Not consume food or drink (only water is allowed)
 - Not wear excessive makeup
 - Not remove uniform pieces in public unless the entire band is instructed to do so

Head to Toe Marching Band Uniform Regulations

- **Helmets**
 - Each student will be sized for a helmet. Helmets should not be handled with bare hands to keep hand oil and sweat from staining the fabric.
- **Hair and Face/Ears**
 - Hair for instrumentalists should not show, be bushy or flip out. It should be unnoticeable. Long hair must be neatly pulled up in braids or a bun. Short hair must be neatly trimmed. Hair that is in between must be contained with a wig cap. (*color guard hair requirements will be communicated in regards to the show theme/uniform*)
 - No jewelry of any kind - earrings, nose rings, lip rings, septum rings, chin or eyebrow rings. No makeup (*matching makeup is allowed for color guard*)
- **Undergarments**
 - The purpose of undergarments is to have a smooth line while wearing bibbers and jacket or color guard uniform and to have appropriate garb when out of the uniform.
Undershirt - Black band undershirt
Shorts - All black bike shorts or all black slick athletic shorts with no pockets may be worn. If a band member shows up with inappropriate shorts (colored, trim, pockets, zippers), they will need to purchase shorts from the band uniform supplies.
Color guard will wear approved unitards underneath guard uniform
IF a student has shown they own the appropriate undergarments and forgets them, they may borrow undergarments from the borrow bins. They need to be returned the following week.
- **Jackets and bibbers**
 - Band members will be sized for the appropriate size jacket and bibbers. Each member will also be shown how to adjust the hem on their sleeves and

pant legs. *Each band member will be responsible for checking their hems before each game and competition.*

- **Spirit/Heat Uniform Shirt**
 - Will be purchased by each student to be used over their 4 years in marching band
 - Will be worn for Wildcat Walk, in the event of extreme temperatures, for various community events, away games when show is not performed, etc.
 - Spirit/Heat Uniform Shirts will be taken up for storage/cleaning after each performance and are not to be taken home. Students may keep their shirt at the end of their senior year.
- **Gauntlets**
 - Band members will be sized for the appropriate size gauntlets.
- **Gloves**
 - Each band member except percussion will be sized for gloves. If gloves are forgotten, they may be borrowed from the borrow bin. If the appropriate size is not available, they will need to be bought from uniform supplies.
- **Socks**
 - All black calf length or knee socks must be worn. Short socks or socks with colored heels are unacceptable.
- **Shoes**
 - Each band member will be sized for band shoes. They will be worn for every game and competition. Names should be written in each shoe with a sharpie. If shoes are forgotten, shoes may be borrowed from the borrow bin, they must be returned the same day.
- **Band Backpacks**
 - Each band member will be required to buy a band bag for their uniform parts. They will be embroidered with their name.

*Please Note- Shoes, gloves, undershirts, and shorts that are left in the band room, hallways, and buses and are not labeled with the owner's name will go in the borrow bins.

Concert Uniform

We ask that members create their own concert black uniform from the following:

- Long black dress (below the knees when seated; strapless/spaghetti straps not allowed) with black socks/hosiery and black dress shoes.
- White tux shirt or white long sleeve button down shirt with a black-tie (bow/straight), black pants, and black socks/hosiery and black dress shoes. ***Spring Semester Symphonic Band- Short black tuxedo (no tails) or black suit jacket required**
- Black, long-sleeve, button-down shirt/blouse and black skirt/dress pants with black socks/hosiery and dress shoes

Camp Fees

Continuing with the 2026-2027 academic year, the maximum amount of money owed in CutTime cannot exceed the cost of one year of band camp. For this year, that amount will be \$385. If your account is currently over that maximum, please begin making payments to reduce your balance. PLEASE NOTE: IF YOUR CURRENT CUTTIME ACCOUNT BALANCE IS OVER THE MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE BALANCE OF \$385 YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO CHARGE THE 2026-2027 BAND CAMP FEE TO YOUR ACCOUNT.

Freshmen/New Member \$485 total: \$50 deposit by May 19, \$435 due at camp.

- Includes regular camp fee, new spirit shirt, water jug, marching shoes, 2 Undershirts, Gloves, member backpack- All of these items are required for participation

All Color Guard \$485 total: \$50 deposit by May 19, \$435 due at camp.

- Includes regular camp fee, new spirit shirt, water jug, uniform fee, dance shoes, leotard, and hair supplies. (new members will also receive a backpack)- Make-up not included and will be purchased on an individual basis

Returning Instrumentalist \$385 total: \$50 deposit by May 19, \$335 due at camp.

- Includes regular camp fee and new water jug-
- Replacement items may be purchased at a later date on an individual basis
- For each year of membership. Payable with cash, card, or check (made out to "Tulahoma Band"). Contributions are non-refundable. This contribution provides a majority of the operating budget necessary for a successful high school band and covers staff instruction, marching show arrangements, field props, materials for each section, etc. **Sibling Discount- \$335 per member*

School Instrument - \$25-\$100 (depending on cost of instrument) Payable with cash or check (made out to "Tulahoma High School"). This fee is for any student using a school instrument (oboe, bassoon, tenor sax, bari sax, mellophone, marching baritone, tuba, sousaphone, etc.). This covers regular instrument maintenance costs. These fees are communicated on the instrument rental form and are due at the beginning of each school year.

Travel Expectations

Bus Expectations

- Students will travel by bus for away games and will provide their own transportation for all home games. Check Skyward emails/Remind texts for trip sheets for away games and call times for home games.
- Bus sign up lists for the year will occur prior to the first bus trip. Tullahoma City Schools rules and regulations for bus behavior will apply on all band bus trips. Chaperones will supervise each bus on trips.
- The bus driver, parent chaperones, the student bus captain, and leadership are direct extensions of the directors. Following their first request is non-negotiable while on the bus.
- Couples are required to sit in the first 6 rows of the bus- no exceptions
- When traveling by bus, TCS policy states that students must return by bus unless **THEIR parent/guardian** signs them out in person. Students are not allowed to ride home with another family. This is a school board policy.

Grading

- Students will be graded on three categories: Performances 50%, Assessments 25%, and Rehearsal Techniques(ASR) 25%. Student grades will be derived from attendance at all rehearsals and performances, assessments (playing & written), and daily participation/preparation (materials will be checked everyday for a grade)
- Students will be at all scheduled rehearsals and performances in order to receive full marks for their grades. Unexcused absences from rehearsals and/or performances can significantly affect a student's overall grade.
- The grading scale will follow the system currently in place by Tullahoma City Schools. Grades can be viewed anytime by visiting the school's Skyward portal.

ATTENDANCE POLICY- UPDATED

The quality of the Tullahoma High School Band Program is directly proportional to consistent attendance. Absences hurt the student and the overall team goal. Everyone plays a vital role as a team member in this organization. While the Tullahoma High School Band follows all district policies and procedures, the following additional guidelines outline the attendance procedures and policies for the Tullahoma High School Band. These attendance policies also apply to activities held during the school day, including pep rallies, as well as campus and community performances. These attendance policies also apply to activities held outside of the school day. Failure to participate in either rehearsals or performances may result in student removal from a performance or the organization at the discretion of the band directors.

Punctuality is essential for all rehearsals and performances. Chronically poor attendance/punctuality will be sufficient grounds to be removed from a specific performance or from the Tullahoma High School Band entirely.

All rehearsals and performances are required. Each band family will be issued a performance calendar each year. Each student will have two-weeks to turn in a request for an excused absence. Extenuating or emergency circumstances (i.e. student illness, funerals, etc.) that arise after the forms have been turned into the band office will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Band students and parents are respectfully asked to not schedule doctor's/dentist/ driver's license appointments during band rehearsals except in case of emergency.

Unexcused absences from rehearsals and performances will result in a zero for the performance and/or after school rehearsal grade. Examples of unexcused absences would include (but are not limited to) the following: work, vacations, homework, family social events, not finding a ride, babysitting siblings, non-school sports, haircut appointments, dance practices, etc. Absences due to avoidable, elective conflicts or as a result of poor planning will not be excused. An opportunity to make-up the zero grade will be provided and must be completed within 3 days of the student's return to school. Students should stay familiar with the band calendar and communicate with parents, siblings, employers, friends, etc.

In the case of a sudden unexpected absence, parents should notify the band directors via email within 48 hours. Students can also submit an email to the band directors with a valid parent email address copied on the email.

School Related Activity Conflict Resolution Policies:

The Tullahoma High School Band is designed so that students can participate in other TCS sanctioned events. Conflicts with the band rehearsal and performance schedule will arise. The following policies have been developed in order to help parents and students in these

situations:

- Parents and students should compare the band rehearsal and performance calendar against the team/activity calendar to find any potential conflicts.
- Parents should email BOTH the band directors and the coach/activity sponsor about the potential conflict.
- A game/meet takes precedence over a band rehearsal.
- A band performance takes precedence over a team practice/club activity.

If a conflict occurs between a band performance and a game/school activity, the band directors and coaches/activity sponsors will determine which activity the student will participate in. In most cases, these conflicts are easily resolved. Band directors and coaches/activity sponsors will always make it a priority to have the student attend both events if possible.

PLEASE NOTE:

Parents may be responsible for providing transportation between activities when two events occur the same day.

***Required Events**

The following events are required of members of the Tullahoma High School Band. Check the calendar at tullahomabands.org for current dates & times for all events. You can also sync our band calendar to your phone. Directions are in the FAQ section of our band website.

Band Camp- This 10-day camp allows us to prepare properly for the marching band season. We learn music for our show, bring in additional staff to teach sectionals, and learn how to march for the half-time show.

After School Rehearsals- After camp is completed, we have after-school rehearsals throughout the fall, and dress rehearsals before each performance/concert. Rehearsals are never canceled due to inclement weather unless specifically communicated. In the event of rain or lightning, we will rehearse indoors. *Every effort should be made to schedule appointments outside of rehearsal time or on Wednesdays after school during the marching season.

Saturday Contests- Most Saturdays in September are designated as contest days. These will be full days and no other activities should be scheduled. Following contests, there will be a required uniform and equipment check out process before students are dismissed.

Football Games- We play at every home and away game unless otherwise stated by the directors. Students will meet in the band room (or other designated location) at the designated call time in full uniform and will stay for the entirety of the game. Following games, there will be a required uniform and equipment check out process before students are dismissed.

Concerts- students will meet in the band room at the designated call time in "concert black".

Schedule all vacations and appointments around these events. Additionally, students must set their work schedules around these events. Work is not an excusable reason for absence. Excessive absences from rehearsals and/or performances could result in a student's dismissal from the band program. Communication about excused absences from rehearsals/performances should be made at least two weeks in advance.

Band Trips (Optional)

Band trips are offered every two years and are open to all members and their immediate family members (unless otherwise noted). Trips for band members are optional and typically occur over fall or spring break. All adults/traveling family members (18 and over) are required to complete a background check and are responsible for the cost. Students with ISS/OSS or excessive discipline referrals may only sign up for a band trip with the approval of the directors. A student with ISS/OSS or excessive discipline referrals during the fall or spring semester of a trip will not be allowed to travel with the band. Students may fundraise towards the partial or total cost of their trip through various fundraisers offered by the boosters. Trips in the past have included Orlando, New York, Chicago, Hawaii, Canada, and other various destinations.

Private Lessons

In order for our band to reach the highest levels of achievements, every member must seek to improve their individual musicianship. We are very fortunate to have a high-quality private lesson program on campus both during and after school hours. All Tullahoma Lessons Staff are vetted through Tullahoma City Schools' background check program and are leading professionals on their instrument. All band students are highly encouraged to participate in the lessons program. We can work with our teachers to find an affordable solution for all students. To enroll, to find more information, or to contact our lessons staff, contact the directors.

Awards

Each year, we recognize our senior class at our annual Band Banquet. Band seniors must be a member in good standing in order to be eligible for band cords as well as any awards given to seniors. Any member who only completes a portion of their senior year may still attend banquet, but is not eligible for awards or the senior band graduation cord. To be in good standing means:

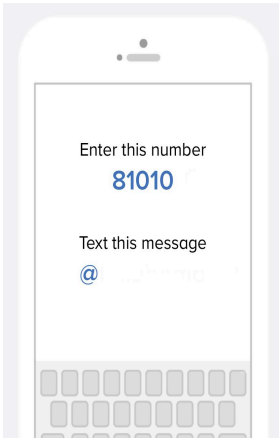
- Instrumental students must participate in band through the end of their senior year spring semester (early graduates are exempt from this)
- Non-instrumentalist color guard members must participate every year through the first semester of their senior year from when they joined the program.

Get Connected with the Tullahoma Band!



Remind is a texting app and our single most important tool for communication. We use this tool to communicate with our band family about general reminders, rehearsal and weather updates, and ETAs while traveling. Please subscribe to the appropriate group using the new codes below.

PLEASE ONLY CHOOSE THE CORRECT CODE (parent or student) AS WE ARE LIMITED ON THE NUMBER OF SUBSCRIBERS PER GROUP



Use these codes to join by texting to 81010:

*Everyone will join only 1 group

STUDENTS:

Freshmen- @2030tulla

Sophomores- @2029tulla

Juniors- @2028tulla

Seniors- @2027tulla

PARENTS- @e24kb8



CutTime is our new online management system we use for 7th-12th grade student and parent contact information as well as individual accounting needs. Please be on the lookout for more information soon on how to access your child's account and make payments online
Please direct all Account questions to tullahomabandfees@gmail.com



Our band Google Calendar (www.tullahomabands.org/calendar) always contains the most up to date info and times for band events. In addition, you can sync our band calendar with your device. Instructions can be found on our band website FAQ page. www.tullahomabands.org/faq

Social Media



www.facebook.com/groups/tullahomaband



[@tullahomaband](https://twitter.com/tullahomaband)



www.instagram.com/tullahomaband/

THS BAND MEMBER HANDBOOK AGREEMENT FORM

ALL STUDENTS AND PARENTS/GUARDIANS SHOULD READ THROUGH THE HANDBOOK BEFORE SIGNING

By signing this form, we acknowledge that we have read and agree to abide by policies set forth by the Tullahoma High School Band Program as stated in the Band Handbook.

Student Signature Student Printed Name Date

Parent/Guardian Signature Parent/Guardian Printed Name Date

Parent/Guardian Signature Parent/Guardian Printed Name Date